

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present Application. Claims 1-2, 6, 8, 16, 18, 23, 26-27, 32, 34, 42, 44, 46, and 49-53 have been amended herein. Care has been exercised to introduce no new matter. Claims 1-6, 8-12, 15-38, and 41-53 are pending and are in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Wilcox in view of Overton

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 23, 26-38, 42-46, 49-50 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilcox, U.S. Publication No. 2005/0002483 (hereinafter “Wilcox”) in view of Overton, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0065653 (hereinafter “Overton”).

Independent Claim 1

Independent claim 1 recites a method for determining and storing a time zone for healthcare information for a patient. Healthcare information that has an associated time and date is received. A time zone source rule is obtained and utilized to determine a time zone that is associated with the time and date. The time and date are converted to a coordinated universal format and stored with the associated healthcare information. The time zone is also stored with the associated healthcare information.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite that the time zone source rule can be a patient’s time zone rule, a user’s time zone rule, a user entered time zone rule, or a system’s time zone rule. Thus, by utilizing the time zone source rule to determine the time zone to be associated with the date and time for the healthcare information, the source of the time zone can be that of the patient’s location, the user’s location, the system’s location, or a user entered time zone. The claim has also been amended to more clearly recite that the time zone and the time and date are stored, e.g., the time zone is an additional data element that is stored.

Conversely, Wilcox describes a system that utilizes radiologists and medical imaging facilities in disparate time zones to provide full time radiologic study of images captured at the medical imaging facilities. By Wilcox, a medical imaging facility, such as a hospital in time zone A, is paired up with a radiologist or technician in a disparate time zone B such that radiologic images taken at the hospital during the nighttime hours of time zone A are analyzed by the radiologist/technician during the daytime hours of time zone B. *Wilcox* at ¶ [0014]. The time zones A and B are located generally on opposite sides of the globe such that while time zone A experiences nighttime, time zone B experiences daytime. *Id.* As such, radiologic study is provided to the hospital in time zone A twenty-four hours a day by radiologists or technicians who are working during their normal daylight hours and are thus, more likely to be at their peak performance. *Id.*

Wilcox fails to teach or suggest all of the features of independent claim 1. Wilcox does not describe receiving healthcare information having an associated time and date. Wilcox only describes actions taking place during certain hours of the day and does not describe healthcare information having a time and date associated therewith.

Further, Wilcox does not teach or suggest obtaining a time zone source rule or utilizing such a rule to determine a time zone to be associated with healthcare information as recited by independent claim 1. Wilcox merely describes actions taking place in two different time zones and choosing a time zone in which to locate technicians. *See Wilcox* at FIG. 1, ¶ [0014], and claims 1-3. Wilcox only employs the time zone terminology to describe the time differential between two disparate locations. Under Wilcox, the time zone is only used to identify a location for technicians. *Id.* The time zone has no effect on the healthcare information, is not associated with the healthcare information, and is not recorded in any manner

with the healthcare information. Conversely, following Applicants' claim a time zone source rule is obtained and utilized to determine a time zone to be associated with the healthcare information. The time zone source rule determines the time zone based generally on the source of the healthcare information such as the patient's location, the user's location, the system's location, or a user entered time zone. The time zone source rule is not used to determine where to locate technicians, but conversely might be used to determine that the time zone of such a technician's location is to be associated with healthcare information.

Wilcox also fails to describe converting time and date information or storing time and date information. As described above, Wilcox does not describe storing time and date information associated with healthcare information. Wilcox also does not describe storing time zone information associated with the healthcare information. Wilcox only describes identifying locations for technicians based on the time differential between locations.

Overton fails to cure the deficiencies of Wilcox. Overton describes a universal method for generating an index of medical records when the services are rendered and retrieving those medical records based on the index. *Overton* at ¶ [0001]. Under Overton, an index indicating patient encounters with various medical facilities is generated. *Id.* at [0200]. The index indicates the location at which the medical records for each of the patient encounters is stored. *Id.* ¶ [0201]. Thereby, a user can query the index for the medical records, identify where the medical records are stored and then contact that storage location directly. *Id.* at ¶ [0202].

As such, Overton fails to describe all of the features of independent claim 1. Overton does not describe healthcare information having an associated *time* and date. Overton merely describes associating a date with a patient encounter. *Id.* at ¶ [0335]. Further, Overton does not describe obtaining a time zone source rule as recited by independent claim 1. Overton

does not describe or use time zones or time zone information. Overton merely describes identifying medical records by date and, thus, time zone information is not necessary or used.

Further, Overton does not describe utilizing a time zone source rule to determine a time zone for the healthcare information based on a patient's location, a user's location, a system's location, or a user entered time zone. The cited portions of Overton merely state that Overton establishes an identity for a patient when services are rendered. *Overton* at ¶ [0006]. These portions make no mention of time zones, time zone source rules, or the like. Further, no data regarding the time of the services being rendered is recorded.

Overton also fails to teach or suggest converting the time and date to a coordinated universal format. Overton does describe using universal encoding systems for providing a universally usable identification for devices and users thereof. *Overton* at ¶¶ [0022], and [0025]. However, such describes encoding of device and user identifications. Time and date information is not a device or user identification. Thus, this description provided by Overton does not describe converting a time and date to a coordinated universal time.

As Overton fails to describe time zones and converting a time and date into a coordinated universal format, Overton cannot describe storing such information as recited by Applicants' claim 1.

Independent Claims 23

Independent claim 23 recites a method for displaying a time zone for patient healthcare information. Independent claim 23 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claim 1, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, and a time zone associated with the

healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claim 1 apply equally to independent claim 23.

Independent claim 23 has also been amended to recite that the associated date and time are converted from the coordinated universal format to an equivalent time based on the time zone and the equivalent time is displayed with the healthcare information. Thus, the date and time are converted to the time of day at a location in the time zone. For example, if healthcare information is associated with the U.S. central standard time zone, then the time and date would be converted from the coordinated universal format to the equivalent time in the U.S. central standard time zone, e.g. if the coordinated universal format is Greenwich mean time then a time of 5:28pm Greenwich mean time is converted to 11:28am U.S. central standard time. Wilcox and Overton do not describe converting a date and time from a coordinated universal time to an equivalent time based on a time zone.

Independent Claim 26

Independent claim 26 recites a system for determining and storing a time zone for healthcare information for a patient. Independent claim 26 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, obtaining a time zone source rule, and a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23 apply equally to independent claim 26.

Independent Claim 42

Independent claim 42 recites a system for storing a time zone associated with healthcare information. Independent claim 42 recites features similar to those described above

with respect to independent claims 1 and 23, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23 apply equally to independent claim 42. Independent claim 42 also recites that the time zone of the patient's location is determined. Neither Wilcox nor Overton describe determining the time zone of a patient.

Independent Claim 44

Independent claim 44 recites a system for storing the time zone associated with healthcare information. Independent claim 44 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, and a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23 apply equally to independent claim 44. Independent claim 44 also recites that the time zone of the user's location is determined. Neither Wilcox nor Overton describe determining the time zone of a user.

Independent Claim 46

Independent claim 46 recites a system for displaying a time zone for patient healthcare information. Independent claim 46 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claim 1, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date and a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claim 1 apply equally to independent claim 46. Independent claim 46 also recites obtaining a time zone stored for the healthcare information and displaying the date and time in the stored time zone. As described above, neither Wilcox nor

Olsen describe storing a time zone associated with healthcare information and thus cannot describe obtaining such a stored data element. Additionally, Wilcox and Overton fail to teach or suggest displaying a time and date in the stored time zone as recited by independent claim 46.

Independent Claim 49

Independent claim 49 recites a system for determining and storing a time zone for healthcare information for a patient. Independent claim 49 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claim 1, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, a time zone source rule, and a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claim 1 apply equally to independent claim 49.

Independent Claim 50

Independent claim 50 recites computer-readable media for performing a method. Independent claim 50 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, and a time zone associated with the healthcare information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23 apply equally to independent claim 50.

Independent Claim 53

Independent claim 53 recites computer-readable media for performing a method. Independent claim 53 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, and a time zone associated with the healthcare

information. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1 and 23 apply equally to independent claim 53.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Wilcox and Overton, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the claim features of independent claims 1, 23, 26, 42, 44, 46, 49, 50, and 53. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 23, 26, 42, 44, 46, 49, 50, and 53 are not obvious over Wilcox in view of Overton. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of independent claims 1, 23, 26, 42, 44, 46, 49, 50, and 53. Claims 1, 23, 26, 42, 44, 46, 49, 50, and 53 are believed to be in condition for allowance and such favorable action is hereby respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6, 8-12, 27-38, 43, and 45 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1, 23, 26, 42, 44, 46, 49, 50, and 53. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Wilcox and Overton, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the limitations of dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, 27-38, 43, and 45 for at least the above-cited reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, 27-38, 43, and 45 are not obvious over Wilcox in view of Overton, and request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection thereof.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Wilcox in view of Overton and Olson

Claims 15, 24, 25, 41, 47 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilcox in view of Overton and further in view of Olson, U.S. Patent No. 5,999,493 (hereinafter “Olson”).

Applicants respectfully submit that Olson fails to cure the deficiencies of Wilcox and Overton. Olson discloses using a radio broadcast of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to synchronize clocks contained in an automated external defibrillator (AED) device and in a

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computer system for processing 911 calls such that response times of emergency response personnel may be accurately calculated. *See Abstract of Olson*. As such, Olson fails to teach or suggest a time zone source rule that applies to healthcare information, utilizing a time zone source rule to determine a time zone for the healthcare information, converting a time and date to a coordinated universal format, or storing the time zone with the healthcare information as discussed previously above.

Claims 15, 24-25, 41, and 47-48 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1, 23, 26 and 46. It is respectfully submitted that Wilcox, Overton, and Olson, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the claim features of independent claims 1, 23, 26 and 46 for at least the reasons described above. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Wilcox, Overton, and Olson, either alone or in combination, also fail to teach or suggest all of the features of dependent claims 15, 24-25, 41, and 47-48 for at least the above-cited reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 15, 24-25, 41, and 47-48 are not obvious over Wilcox in view of Overton further in view of Olson, and request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection thereof.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Overton in view of Wilcox

Claims 16-22, 51 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Overton in view of Wilcox.

Independent Claim 16

Independent claim 16 recites a method for storing a time zone associated with healthcare information. Independent claim 16 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1, 23, and 42, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, a time zone associated with

the healthcare information, and determining the time zone of a patient. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1, 23, and 42 apply equally to independent claim 16.

Independent Claim 18

Independent claim 18 recites a method for storing a time zone associated with healthcare information. Independent claim 18 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1, 23, and 44, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, a time zone associated with the healthcare information, and determining the time zone of a user. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1, 23, and 44 apply equally to independent claim 18.

Independent Claim 51

Independent claim 51 recites computer-readable media for performing a method. Independent claim 51 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1, 16, 23, and 42, such as healthcare information including an associated time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, a time zone associated with the healthcare information, and determining the time zone of a patient. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1, 16, 23, and 42 apply equally to independent claim 51.

Independent Claim 52

Independent claim 52 recites a computer-readable media for performing a method. Independent claim 52 recites features similar to those described above with respect to independent claims 1, 18, 23, and 44, such as healthcare information including an associated

time and date, using a coordinated universal time format, a time zone associated with the healthcare information, and determining the time zone of a user. As such, the remarks provided above with respect to independent claims 1, 18, 23, and 44 apply equally to independent claim 52.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Overton and Wilcox, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of independent claims 16, 18, 51, and 52. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 16, 18, 51, and 52 are not obvious over Overton in view of Wilcox. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of independent claims 16, 18, 51, and 52. Claims 16, 18, 51, and 52 are believed to be in condition for allowance and such favorable action is hereby respectfully requested.

Claims 17 and 19-22 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 16 and 18. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Overton and Wilcox, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the limitations of dependent claims 17 and 19-22 for at least the above-cited reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 17 and 19-22 are not obvious over Overton in view of Wilcox, and request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection thereof.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons stated above, claims 1-6, 8-12, 15-38, and 41-53 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned – 816-559-2564 or areed@shb.com (such communication via email is herein expressly granted) – to resolve the same. It is believed that no fee is due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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